



KEESLER NEWS

Keesler Air Force Base
Biloxi, Mississippi

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Rebuild the base ... Renew the community ... Reload the Air Force



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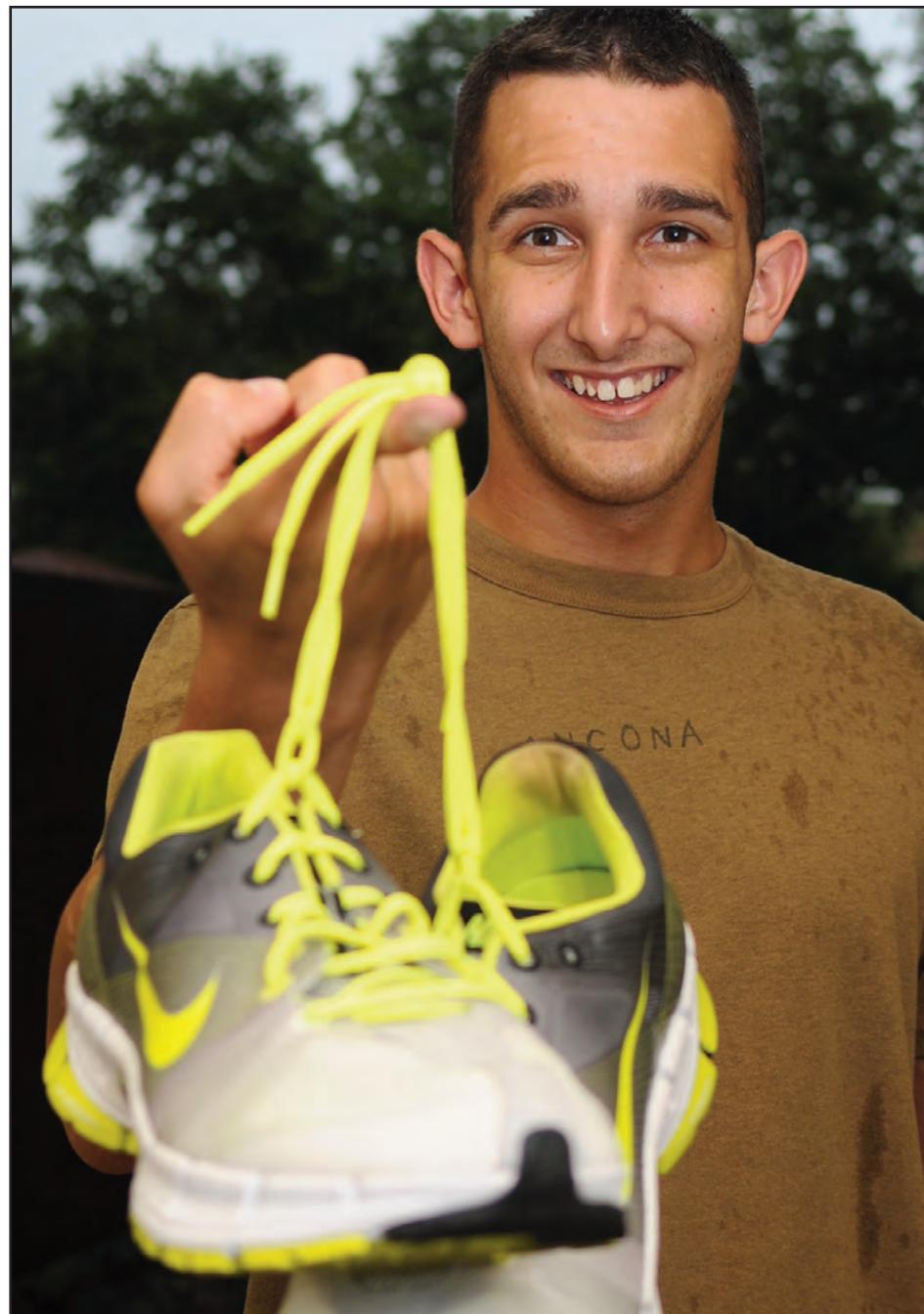


Photo by Kemberly Groue

Airman 1st Class Dominic Ancona, an aerospace medical service technician with the 81st Medical Operations Squadron, represents Air Education and Training Command at the Air Force Marathon at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, Sept. 20. Story, Page 23.

Senate votes to confirm Schwartz as chief of staff

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Gen. Norton Schwartz, a 35-year veteran in special operations, will be the 19th Air Force chief of staff.

The general provided testimony to the Senate Armed Services Committee on July 22, before the full Senate voted on his confirmation Friday. The president must appoint the general before he can assume his new position.



General Schwartz

“I intend to embody the Air Force core values of integrity, service and excellence as I lead the Air Force at this critical transition period,” said General Schwartz.

General Schwartz now serves as the commander of U.S. Transportation Command. Gen. Duncan McNabb, also confirmed by the Senate, will assume command of USTRANSCOM.

In his current command, General Schwartz is the single manager for global air, land and sea transportation for the Department of Defense.

His command experience includes the 1st Special Operations Group and 1st Special Operations Wing, both at Hurlburt Field, Fla.; Special Operations Command Pacific, Camp H.M. Smith, Hawaii; U.S. Special Operations Command, MacDill Air Force Base, Fla.; and Alaskan Command, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska.

General Schwartz graduated from the Air Force Academy in 1973. He’s an alumnus of the National War College, a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Embrace the Olympic spirit — strive for your personal best

By Col. Greg Touhill

81st Training Wing commander

Will you be watching the Olympics? What a fantastic spectacle of sport and national pride as the world's greatest athletes compete to earn the medals that distinguish them as the Olympic champions!

Not many of us have the very rare combination of athletic skill, discipline, and training that would allow us to compete at such a high level of athletic competition yet, as Airmen, we do have something even more powerful that makes us world-class ... our Air Force core values, our great Air Force training, and our great wingmen!

All of us have the potential to be the best at what we do.

Take fitness and warrior preparation, for example. I'm certainly not going to set any

Olympic records in my fitness test, but I'm going to try to improve and set a personal best next year. How about you? Make a commitment to yourself and follow through. Now's the time to start training!

How about on the job? Are you known as "the best in the business"? Do you have that great customer service attitude that marks you as a champion and attracts other people because you are the best? If not, why not? You can do it! Now's the time to start training to get there!

How about off-duty? Are you the best spouse, parent, friend, sibling, child, or (fill-in-the-blank) you can be? Are there things you can improve? Taking time to assess where you stand and where you want to be is the first step in putting together a great life plan that can yield

Olympic-size rewards.

Frankly, while we have some great athletes here at Keesler, I'd be pleasantly surprised to see any of you on the Olympic podium receiving a medal. That said, however, I'm blessed to have stood at attention while many of you have stood on a different platform and received other medals of note that mark you as true champions in the defense of our nation. The medals your nation gives you in thanks for your service to your fellow Americans are precious in a way that Olympic medals can't come close to. The medals our nation presents represent the thanks of 300 million people for your selfless sacrifice, your devotion to duty, and your constant striving to be the best in the world.

The Olympic competition

ACTION LINE ... 377-4357

By Col. Greg Touhill

81st Training Wing commander

You're encouraged to work concerns through your chain of command or contact an appropriate helping agent. For unresolved issues, call the commander's action line for assistance.

Suggestions to help make this a more valuable and useful tool are welcome. Call the commander's action line at 377-4357, write to Commander's Action Line, 81st TRW/PA, Keesler AFB, MS 39534-2603, e-mail 81stTRWCommander'sActionLine@keesler.af.mil (on-base) or commanders.line@keesler.af.mil (off-base).

For personal responses, include your name, address and phone number. Items of general interest may appear in this column.



is an inspirational time, when people around the world marvel at the incredible feats of athletic prowess that mark Olympic champions. You have what it takes to be a champion too. One of our

greatest Olympic champions, Jesse Owens, said, "Find the good. It's all around you. Find it, showcase it and you'll start believing in it." I believe in YOU ... strive to be a champion in all you do!

Airman's Creed embodies warrior heritage

By Col. Cassandra Salvatore

81st Inpatient Operations Squadron commander

I am very excited to be a part of Team Keesler and back in Mississippi.

I began my Air Force career here more than 25 years ago and, at that time, we didn't have an Airman's Creed. In fact, the Airman's Creed is just 15 months old. First introduced on April 18, 2007, by former Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley, it was created to instill in us a sense of pride and remind us of our warfighting heritage and our incredible history.

To be honest, when the creed first came out, I didn't get it. In 25 years, I have seen mantras, programs and other changes come and go. For example, who remembers Total Quality Management? Or what about the service dress uniform with the striped rank on the sleeves? In addition, was I really supposed to memorize it? It has four stanzas ... 94 words!

It took me about seven months and a deployment, but now I get it. During my deployment as the 376th Expeditionary Medical Group commander, I worked alongside fellow Airmen who were guardians of freedom and justice — our nation's sword and shield. I participated in fallen warrior ceremonies, saluting the caskets of heroes who had

defended our country with their lives.

Our wing at the deployed location had come from a proud heritage, a tradition of honor and a legacy of valor. It was named after the 376th Bombardment Group which served the 9th, 12th and 15th Air Forces in World War II. However, it was not until our deployed command chief, Chief Master Sgt. Lisa Sirois, challenged us to memorize the creed that it really began to resonate in my soul. Each week we memorized one stanza and would recite it at the end of our wing's senior leadership meeting.

As I began memorizing the creed, I quickly realized the power of each phrase. I had been so wrong in my earlier thinking. General Moseley said, "Having an Airman's creed is like a blinding flash of the obvious: that it simply and concisely puts into words the warfighting spirit that exists in Airmen past and present."

I plan to challenge my squadron's executive staff — officers and enlisted — to memorize the creed. We'll recite a stanza each week at the end of our weekly meeting until they have it memorized.

Have you memorized the creed? I urge you to take a few minutes each day while you are putting on your uniform to memorize the words. Why? Because you are an American Airman, you are a warrior and you have answered your nation's call.

The Airman's Creed

I am an American Airman.

I am a warrior.

I have answered my nation's call.

I am an American Airman.

My mission is to fly, fight, and win.

I am faithful to a proud heritage,

A tradition of honor,

And a legacy of valor.

I am an American Airman,

Guardian of freedom and justice,

My nation's sword and shield,

Its sentry and avenger.

I defend my country with my life.

I am an American Airman:

Wingman, leader, warrior.

I will never leave an Airman behind,

I will never falter,

And I will not fail.



DRAGON ON THE STREET

What are you
doing to be more
eco-friendly?



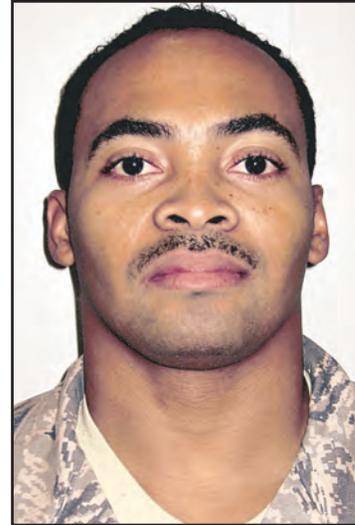
I've started a compost heap in my backyard for my household biodegradables.

— Tom Long, 81st Communications Squadron



When I brush my teeth, I don't let the water run.

— Senior Airman Ray Wheeler, 336th Training Squadron



We're replacing household light bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs, and we try to limit the loads of laundry we do.

— Master Sgt. Mark Huntington, 332nd TRS

KEESLER NEWS

81st Training Wing commander

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Keesler on the Web

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VIEW OTHER ART AND PHOTOS AT WWW.AF.MIL



PRODUCED BY AIR FORCE NEWS SERVICE

Product of Keesler craftsmen headed to Italy

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News staff

A tabletop trainer created by Keesler craftsmen is headed to Italy.

The 704th Munitions Support Squadron at Ghedi Air Base sent a training equipment request through 2nd Air Force for a portable tabletop trainer. The unit wanted a realistic map to serve as the base of the model, with static displays placed on top to create a three-dimensional tabletop teaching tool.

The 81st Training Support Squadron's trainer development flight undertook the project. The flight, headed by Bruce Scott, has 33 civilians in various disciplines, including engineering, resource management, electronic assembly, metal trades and woodcrafting.

"Numerous teleconferences, e-mails, and pictures were sent back and forth to determine and clarify the customer's requirements," explained electronics technician Ron Holtorf, project manager.

Original requirements called for the tabletop map to have a



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Mr. Holtorf positions a plane on the tabletop trainer's runway.

similar surface like the grass surface used to set up a model train, with four protected aircraft shelters, eight to 10 PA-200 Italian Tornado aircraft replicas slightly bigger than toy die-cast cars, two transport vehicles and 24 soldiers holding weapons.

The customer wanted the trainer to be durable enough to be portable and fit into some

type of case for field use, yet practical for use in a classroom environment.

"The map is ingeniously sectioned into 3-foot by 3-foot pieces that can be used individually or pieced back together to encompass all operating areas," said Lt. Col. Kevin O'Rourke, 81st TRSS commander.

The primary focus is the

protected aircraft shelters and surrounding areas based on grid maps and pictures provided by the customer.

"Ten 3-foot by 3-foot dioramas include 15 protective aircraft shelters with working doors, PA-200 planes, fire trucks, armored vehicles, tow vehicles, trailers and personnel vehicles," Mr. Holtorf

pointed out. "There are 281 soldiers — 15 painted in a desert camouflage scheme, 170 in Italian woodlands camo and 96 in the new airman battle uniform."

About 900 hours of labor and \$4,350 in materials were devoted to the project.

"Numerous shops and personnel were involved in the project, but the key player for the success of the project was engineering technician Paul Peterson," Mr. Holtorf said. "He spent many hours researching materials and advising other personnel and shops on techniques required to fabricate and paint the vehicles, soldiers and dioramas and was heavily involved with the customer in coordinating details such as soldier scale and posture, custom fabricating and defining the scale of the shelters and surrounding areas."

"Our team of dedicated professionals does a fantastic job with each and every training project," Colonel O'Rourke said. "And this one really demonstrates the worldwide influence of their work."

Identity theft is a personal nightmare and security risk. Shred bills, statements, letters, old journals, records, outdated application forms and any documents that contain your full name, Social Security number, duty title and job information, credit card, bank account numbers and names of family members. If you see documents being removed from trash cans, call the 81st Security Forces Squadron law enforcement desk, 377-3040.

SafeTALK

Training program's goal is suicide prevention

By Staff Sgt.
Carlos Rodriguez

Keesler Public Affairs

In the quiet, darkened main room of the Levitow Training Support Facility, a young technical school student, surrounded by his peers, relates a story of someone he knew who was thinking about suicide.

According to its Web site, the SafeTALK suicide-prevention program now being used by the Air Force teaches participants to recognize and engage persons who might be having thoughts of suicide and to connect them with community resources specializing in suicide intervention.

Keesler recently started to offer this three-hour program to all members, including technical training students, 1-4 p.m. every Tuesday at the Fishbowl Student Center.

"The Air Force has been using the program since April when the first 20 trainers were trained," said Chaplain (Capt.) Charles Seligman, 81st Training Wing.

"Keesler has a great opportunity to learn this training," he added.

The program consists of a four-step process for people to use when they know or suspect someone is contemplating suicide. TALK, said Chaplain Seligman, stands for tell, ask, listen and keepsafe.

"When we think suicide's a possibility, bring it up, get it out in the open and then keep the person safe until you can contact the appropriate help, such as mental health, the chapel staff, or the first sergeant" said Chaplain Seligman.

Though the training is still in its infancy here at Keesler, Chaplain Seligman has already been able to reach some 300 Airmen.

"We've received positive

feedback from all of the students," said Chaplain Seligman. "I get a lot of students who want to come up and talk to me after the training about particular situations involving people they know or even family members. I know (the training) is doing some good," he added.

An integral part of the training appears to be the removal of the awkward feeling some people can have when talking about suicide.

"I found that one of the benefits of the class was that I'm more comfortable with word 'suicide' – both hearing and using it," said Airman Basic Cole Christensen, a student with the 336th Training Squadron who recently attended one of the training sessions.

The training program, by virtue of its location, has



Chaplain Seligman leads the SafeTALK suicide prevention class at the Fishbowl Student Center, July 29.

Photo by Kemberly Groue

already touched a large number of students – an appropriate audience according to some attendees.

"This is still a training envi-

ronment," said Airman Christensen. "It's stressful like (Basic Military Training) and we're also making a huge transition in our lives here."

For more information about SafeTALK, please contact Chaplain Seligman on 377-2331 or Staff Sgt. Lauren Hardee on 376-0385.

Heritage committee presents 2 scholarships



Ms. Fields

By Staff Sgt. Tanya Holditch

Keesler News editor

Two Keesler members were awarded Col. Lawrence E. Roberts scholarships Friday.

The African-American Heritage Committee awards the annual scholarships, which are open to all local high school seniors. Seven competitors submitted letters of recommendation, their grade point average and wrote an essay about "multiculturalism in the military."

This year the AAHC worked with the Tuskegee Airmen Inc. Col. Lawrence E. Roberts Chapter to raise funds throughout the year for the \$1,000 scholarships.

Chosen were Amber Fields, daughter of Cynthia and Ephron Lee, 334th Training Squadron, and Shenique Russ, daughter of

Master Sgt. Melvin and Sharon Thompson, 81st Medical Group. Both are Biloxi High School graduates.

Ms. Fields graduated in the top half of her class and captain and named most valuable player of the girls' varsity basketball team. In 2008, she was inducted into the BHS Hall of Fame. She attends Meridian Community College this fall on a basketball scholarship where she studies pre-pharmacy.

Ms. Russ attends the University of Southern Mississippi in the fall. Her major is business administration. Upon graduation, she said she'll pursue an Air Force commission as a hospital administrator.

The scholarships can be used for tuition, fees, books or any other college-related expenses.



Ms. Russ

When you gamble with safety,
you bet your life.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION NOTES

Registration dates

Registration dates for on-base colleges:

Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College — through Aug. 21, active duty; Aug. 19-21 for civilians. Classes begin Aug. 25.

William Carey College — through Aug. 22. Classes begin Aug. 25.

University of Southern Mississippi — 2-6 p.m. Aug. Tuesday, 2-6 p.m. Wednesday, advanced education center on Long Beach campus. Classes begin Aug. 20.

Night monitor needed

The four colleges located at Keesler have a position vacancy for night monitor during evening classes, Monday through Thursday

Applicants from the 335th Training Squadron located in Allee Hall and other active-duty personnel are preferred.

Application deadline is Aug. 15.

For more information, call Ann Norris, 376-8478, or Patti Holloway, 896-2510.

CCAF fall graduation

Aug. 28 is the deadline to apply for the Community College of the Air Force fall graduating class.

By that date, all supporting documentation must be on file at CCAF, Maxwell Air Force



Like father, like son

Michael Audiss, son of retired Lt. Col. Mark and Loretta Audiss of Petal, Miss., reported to the Air Force Academy June 26. He's a 2008 graduate of Petal High School, where he lettered in cross country and was a member of the National Honor Society, Beta Club, Mu Alpha Theta, show band and golf team. His dad, former commander of the 45th Airlift Squadron, is also an academy graduate.

Base, Ala., including your nomination action request. For more information, call 376-8710 or visit the education office in Room 224, Sablich Center.

WAPS testing

The test administration period for Weighted Airman Promotion System Test Cycle 08E9 is Sept. 9-12.

If individuals are unavailable for the entire testing window, they're encouraged to test prior to the announced start of the test cycle.

Individuals who aren't tested prior to departure should be tested as soon as possible after their return to Keesler or arrival at a new base if there's a permanent

change of station, unless they qualify for additional preparation time due to contingency operations.

Personnel projected to retire or separate during the promotion schedule must be scheduled to test or decline testing.

For more information, call Frances Thomas-Frye, 376-4415.

Drill downs, parades

The 81st Training Group holds drill downs and parades on the drill pad behind the Levittow Training Support Facility.

Parades — 6 p.m. Aug. 21 and Oct. 16.

Drill downs — 7 a.m. Sept. 19; 8 a.m. Nov. 14.

Let's talk shop

Lt. Col. Ray Adams, left, 81st Communications Squadron, talks with Brig. Gen. David Warner, guest speaker for the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association luncheon, July 30 at the Katrina Kantina. The general is the communications and information director and chief information officer at Air Force Space Command headquarters, Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.

Photo by Kemberly Groue



Phone calls up, DUIs down

By Staff Sgt. Tanya Holditch

Keesler News editor

Airmen Against Drunk Driving has received nearly three times as many calls for a sober ride home than they did just a few months ago.

From January to April, 88 people requested a ride home from the free service. Since May, 245 people have already given up their keys to let an AADD volunteer drive them home.

Driving under the influence arrests have also decreased, according to Tech. Sgt. Tyrone Deckard, 81st Security Forces Squadron. From January to April, 18 Keesler members were arrested for DUI, while only nine have been arrested since May.

"If you look at the statistics on the number of incidents we've had, the effect we've had in cutting incidents is phenomenal," said Col. Greg Touhill, 81st Training Wing commander.

These changes are due largely to the proactive approach AADD is now taking, said Tech. Sgt. Chuck Marsh, AADD vice president, who joined the group after his car was struck on two separate occasions by drunken drivers.

"If I can get that one drunken guy or girl to where they need to go without them having to drive, then I know I've done my part in possibly helping save a life," he said.

AADD volunteers pass out business cards with the AADD phone number, speak at commander's calls and inprocessing briefings, and work closely with Colonel Touhill to find ways to get the word out.

Despite the increase, there is still room for improvement, said Staff Sgt. Aaron Eden, AADD president, who became involved with the organization because one of his friends was killed by a drunken driver.

"Even if you have a slight doubt whether you should drive or not, call us," he said.

It's unclear why someone might opt to drive drunk instead of calling AADD, but one reason may be due to misconceptions about the program's anonymity, according to Sergeant Eden.

"We aren't going to deny anyone a ride home," he said. "We take only a first name just to verify who we pick up is the person who called."

AADD volunteers stand by for ride requests in Gulfport, Biloxi and Ocean Springs, 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. Thursday-Saturday on compressed work schedule weeks and Friday-Saturday during regular work weeks.

"We have a pretty vast area of responsibility," said Sergeant Marsh, "and we've even exceeded our boundaries on a few occasions just to go that step above to make sure our fellow Airmen get home safe."

Due to increased call volume, AADD is currently looking for more volunteers.

"We have to do more with the same amount of people," said Sergeant Eden.

AADD has about 200 volunteers, with 43 of them volunteering at least once a month. To meet current demands, 50 more volunteers are needed who can commit to at least one shift per month, according to Sergeant Eden.

"We have an incredible pool of folks who donate their time again and again to helping others, but it's not as large as we'd like," said Sergeant Marsh. "We are always looking for more people to volunteer as drivers or dispatchers."

"It's important for Airmen of all ranks to embrace this program to ensure we're doing all in our power to maintain public safety and to keep our Airmen and their families safe," added Colonel Touhill.

IN THE NEWS

Commitment to End Violence

Aug. 20, two sessions are scheduled for the Commitment to End Violence seminar in the Airman Leadership School auditorium.

8 a.m. to noon — domestic violence and sexual assault training with Heather Wagner, Mississippi special assistant attorney general and director of domestic violence division.

1-5 p.m. — emergency department care for victims of sexual assault with Shalotta Sharp, a nurse with the Mississippi Coalition Against Sexual Assault.

For more information or to register for either or both sessions, call the sexual assault prevention and response program office, 377-8635.

Pilot killed during training exercise

Air Force Print News

NELLIS Air Force Base, Nev. — Lt. Col. Thomas Bouley, 65th Aggressor Squadron commander, died during a Red Flag training exercise July 30.

Colonel Bouley was killed when the two-seater F-15D Eagle he was piloting crashed on the Nevada Test and Training Range.

Chief honored by Air Force Times

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Chief Master Sgt. Stephen Page, command chief for the 12th Flying Training Wing at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, is the Air Force Times Airman of the Year.

Chief Page, who retires in October, was honored July 30 by the Air Force Times, a civilian newspaper that covers the Air Force.

Tyer House reception desk closing

The lodging reception desk at Tyer House closes permanently Aug. 22.

Customers will be required to use the reception desk at Muse Manor to check in, check out or conduct other business.

For more information, call 377-4900 or 9986.

Cell phone restrictions for drivers

It's a primary offense to use a cell phone while driving on base without a hands-free device.

Violators can be stopped and ticketed for this offense by the 81st Security Forces Squadron.

Off-limits establishments

Off-limits establishments for military members are the Blue Note Lounge, Boulevard Nightclub and Henry Beck Park (except during daylight hours or official events) in Biloxi; Bunksmall Apartments and H&H Hideaway in Pascagoula and Toni's Lounge in Moss Point.

Officials clarify messages about uniform changes

By Staff Sgt. J.G. Buzanowski

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — As the Air Force transitions from the legacy battle dress to the modern airman battle uniform, questions and concerns are bound to come up.

“Anytime there is new information about uniforms for Airmen, we’ll get that out to the field as soon as we can,” said Lt. Col. Charles Arnold, head of Air Force uniform and recognition branch.

Air Force uniform board results and changes based on decisions by Air Force leaders are sent to the field through the Air Force manpower, personnel and services office.

For example, several months ago, the new grey-green combat boots were authorized for wear with both the battle dress uniform and ABU. That decision was based on practicality as Airmen purchase new uniform items, not a recommendation by the uniform board. Nonetheless, information on that decision was disseminated through official channels, the colonel said.

“The change-decision process is long and highly examined,” said Ruth Ewalt, chief of uniform programs and policy. “For example, the 98th uniform board, made up of 29 people from a variety of career fields and every major command, recently reviewed more than 100 inputs from the field ranging from headgear and hairstyles to sock color and boots.”

One suggestion was to permit Airmen in certain industrial career fields to wear black boots with their ABUs on a permanent basis. The rationale given was stains on the grey-green boots can be difficult — if not impossible — to remove.

“The board’s recommendation on that input is being staffed through appropriate channels to the chief of staff and, at this time, no final decision has been made,” Colonel Arnold said. “However, when the chief of staff makes the final decision, it will be disseminated through official channels. We encourage Airmen to check with official Air Force news sources and forums, as well as their chain of command, for accurate, up-to-date announcements of a change.”

For more information, call 1-800-616-3775.



Feathered friends

Ospreys are nesting near Biloxi’s Back Bay in high-voltage electric towers north of the Veterans Affairs Medical Center. The nests of the fish-eating hawks are near the new housing construction in Keesler’s Falcon Park. According to 1st Lt. Justin Delorit, 81st Civil Engineer Squadron, the proximity of the birds is a reminder of the importance of protecting and preserving the environment during the building process.

Photo by Herb Welch

Remote process turns off computers to save \$

By Staff Sgt. Tanya Holditch

Keesler News editor

Rising energy costs and shrinking budgets prompted the 81st Communications Squadron to find a way to save money.

The result is a new process, which began Friday, where most networked computers are remotely powered down at 7 p.m. each duty day by 81st CS network operations. Computers in the 81st Training Group are powered down at 1 a.m.

Those with special circumstances can call a client support administrator for exclusion from the new process.

A team of individuals in the 81st CS, driven by Air Force Smart Operations for the 21st Century Initiative, looked for ways to be more vigilant with power consumption, said Capt. Ceara Carson, 81st CS.

“This process is a simple way for us (81st CS) to save Keesler and the Air Force money with minimum impact to the mission,” explained

Captain Carson. “But in order for this to work, we need everyone’s help.”

Keesler members are asked to follow a few simple steps for computers used daily:

Log off at the end of each duty day without powering computers down and ensure all data is saved.

Enable power-saving functions on external hardware, such as scanners, printers and copiers during the day and turn them off each evening.

Report instances when computers don’t respond to the auto-shutdown to a CSA.

In addition, seldom-used computers, such as training systems and those in conference rooms, should be turned off when not in use, but rebooted weekly, in order to receive necessary software updates.

“Users should plan ahead when using systems that may need updates since the installation process could take time,” said Captain Carson.

“This small change is just one part of a base-wide effort to save energy. Individually we can all remember to turn off lights and unplug appliances,” she said. “This is one example of the 81st Communications Squadron’s efforts which, when added to everyone’s efforts, will hopefully bring big results.”

PERSONNEL NOTES

Military members affected by A-76

All military members affected by A-76 should have an assignment by Sept. 30.

Members who didn't receive an overseas assignment during the last cycle are reconsidered during the upcoming cycle. Assignment locations are included in the Enlisted Quarterly Assignment Listing which came out Tuesday. Eligible personnel must have their assignment preferences updated in the virtual military personnel flight by Aug. 23 to be considered for an assignment. The Air Force Personnel Center begin flowing assignments about Aug. 25 for those who are selected.

Members who haven't turned in their eight base-of-preference choices have until Monday to complete applications.

The AFPC assignments team is expected to return to Keesler in September to speak to with the individuals that weren't selected for one of their eight choices. Once these individuals have been identified, AFPC will offer assignment choices that the Air Force may be able to support.

For more information, call Staff Sgt. Sharon Cleveland, 376-8380.

AFPC secure Web site upgraded

A new, updated version of Air Force Personnel Center Secure is now available.

Users should replace any bookmarked links for AFPC Secure with new links. The changes incorporated in this version improve security by requiring passwords that are a minimum of 15 characters. Users using the common access and exclusively are forced to either update their passwords or delete them.

For more information, visit the AFPC "Ask" Web site at <http://ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil/>, or call the 24-hour Air Force Contact Center, 1-800-616-3775.

Emergency care for injured civilians

Civilians can consider military treatment facility if injured

Many military treatment facilities can provide emergency treatment to federal employees based on certain criteria such as facility limitations, staff capabilities, mission requirements, etc. Civilian employees should ask their supervisor if the base hospital or clinic accepts civilian employees for the initial treatment of a job-related injury.

Survey for enlisted medics

The Defense Department is looking for input from the enlisted medical community as it sets up a new Web portal that will enable medics and corpsmen to share lessons learned and suggest ways to improve patient care.

A short online survey is available at <http://www.health.mil>. The new site should be online before Oct. 1, and it will be password-protected to serve the enlisted military medical community.

Updated 2008 list reflects chronic critical skills fields

By Staff Sgt. Julie Weckerlein

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

Enlisted Airmen serving in certain career fields have a greater opportunity for promotion through an annually updated Chronic Critical Skills Program list.

A number of factors are considered before certain Air Force Specialty Codes are put on the list. For one thing, the AFSC must have manning that's below 85 percent of what's authorized. Other factors include the number of Airmen within the career field who are eligible for promotion, overall sustainability of the career field and career field manager input.

"The program provides flexibility by providing low manned, war fighting, mission critical or critically-manned specialties with increased promotion opportunity," said Chief Master Sgt. Mark Long, enlisted promotions and evaluations policy chief at the Pentagon Directorate of Force Management Policy.

"The CCS list is updated annually prior to each promotion cycle to account for manning and mission fluctuations," Chief Long said. Skills identified for the list receive an increased promotion rate 1.2 times higher than normal."

The 2008 program includes 37 specialties (24 staff sergeants, 18 technical sergeants and 19 master sergeants) receiving increased promotions.

This is the list of enlisted AFSCs affected by the 2008 CCS program:

1A0X1 in-flight refueling — technical sergeant

1A2X1 loadmaster — staff sergeant

1A3X1 airborne mission systems — technical sergeant

1A4X1 airborne battle management — staff and technical sergeant

1A7X1 aerial gunner — staff sergeant

1A8X1 airborne crypto linguist — staff, technical and master sergeant

1C1X1 air traffic control — staff sergeant

1C2X1 combat control — staff, technical and master sergeant

1C3X1 command post — staff sergeant

1C4X1 tactical air command and control — staff, technical and master sergeant

1C5X1 aerospace control and warning — technical sergeant

1N0X1 operations intelligence — staff, technical and master sergeant

1N1X1 imagery analysis — staff, technical and master sergeant

1N3X0 crypto linguist — staff, technical and master sergeant

1N4X1 network intelligence analysis — staff, technical and master sergeant

1N5X1 electronic signals intelligence exploitation — staff, technical and master sergeant

1N6X1 electronic system security assessment — technical and master sergeant

1T0X1 survive, evade, rescue, escape — technical sergeant

1T2X1 pararescue — staff, technical and master sergeant

2E2X1 network infrastructure systems — staff sergeant

2R0X1 maintenance data system — master sergeant

2T2X1 air transportation — staff sergeant

2T3X7 vehicle management — staff sergeant

3C3X1 communications computer systems planning and implementation — master sergeant

3E8X1 explosive ordnance disposal — master sergeant

3E9X1 readiness — staff, technical and master sergeant

4A1X1 medical material — staff sergeant

4A2X1 biomedical equipment — master sergeant

4C0X1 mental health services — staff sergeant

4D0X1 diet therapy — staff sergeant

4H0X1 cardiopulmonary laboratory — staff sergeant

5R0X1 chaplain assistant — master sergeant

6C0X1 contracting — staff, technical and master sergeant

7S0X1 office of special investigations — master sergeant

8A200 enlisted aide — master sergeant

9L0X0 interpreter/translator — technical sergeant

9S1X0 technical applications — staff sergeant

To report
fraud, waste
and abuse
at Keesler,
call 377-7053.



Photos by Steve Pivnick

Top, Master Sgt. Stanley McKenzie, left, 81st Medical Support Squadron, discusses warehouse capabilities with the unit's new commander, Lt. Col. Michael Dietz. Before arriving at Keesler, Colonel Dietz was commander of the 27th Special Operations Medical Support Squadron and administrator of the 27th Special Operations Medical Group at Cannon Air Force Base, N.M.

Left, Lt. Col. Brian Casleton, standing, new 81st Aerospace Medicine Squadron commander, watches Staff Sgt. Mondlie Brave of his unit's bioenvironmental engineering flight do a gas mask test on Tech. Sgt. Heather West, 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron. Prior to his current assignment, Colonel Casleton commanded the 59th Laboratory Squadron's clinical laboratory flight at Lackland AFB, Texas.

New squadron commanders take charge



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Capt. Jeffery Rich, left, briefs Maj. Robert Paleo, the 81st Comptroller Squadron's new commander. Major Paleo previously served as the 47th Comptroller Squadron commander at Laughlin AFB, Texas.

DRAGON OF THE WEEK

Name — Staff Sgt. Lynell Amos

Position — air traffic control fundamentals instructor

Unit — 334th Training Squadron

Time in Air Force — 7½ years

Time at Keesler — 2½ years

Hometown — Ebarb, La.

Noteworthy — I served in Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003, and was a distinguished graduate at Airman Leadership School.

Why did you join the Air Force?

Initially, I needed discipline and structure, which the military training instructors at basic training were glad to provide. Eventually, I realized that I wanted to be part of something bigger than myself so that I could look back on my life with great pride. Mostly, I wanted my parents and family to be proud of me.

What are your goals? to transition into the civilian sector and complete my bachelor's degree.

What are your hobbies? spending time with my children, Keely and Kaden, shopping, target shooting and four-wheeler riding

Your favorite quote? “Personality can open doors, but only character can keep them open.” — Elmer Letterman



Photo by Kemberly Groue

DIAMOND NOTES

Being a supervisor is more than just writing performance reports or submitting award packages.

When was the last time you sat down with your Airmen and had a discussion about their well-being?



Master Sgt. David Brown — 85th Engineering Installation Squadron first sergeant.

MEMORABLE MOMENTS



Aug. 10, 1984

Keesler dedicates a new \$4.7 million civil engineering complex.

Got a news tip?
Call 377-8734, 3837 or 9966
or e-mail KN@keesler.af.mil.

Elections

Rules of political engagement for military, federal civilians

By Richard Brock

Legal office

As the November elections approach, it's a good time to review appropriate political activity for federal employees, both military and civilian.

The guiding policy is the Hatch Act (5 USC 7321-7325) and Joint Ethics Regulation 5500.7R, Section 3, paragraph 6-300.

Military and Department of Defense civilian employees are prohibited from using government supplies, equipment, communication systems and facilities in any political activity.

Military

Military members on active duty may:

Register, vote and express a personal opinion on political candidates and issues, but not as a representative of the Armed Forces.

Make monetary contributions to a political party.

Attend partisan and nonpartisan political meetings or rallies as a spectator when not in uniform.

Display a political sticker on the member's private vehicle

Join a political club and attend its meetings when not in uniform

Serve as an election official, under specified circumstances while not in uniform.

Sign a petition for specific legislative action or a petition to place a candidate's name on an official election ballot, if it doesn't obligate the member to engage in prohibited partisan political activity, and is done as a private citizen.

Military members may not:

Use one's official authority or influence for interfering with an election, affecting the course or outcome of an election, soliciting votes for a particular candidate or issue or requiring or soliciting political contributions from others.

Be a candidate for, or hold, civil office except as authorized.

Participate in partisan political management, campaigns, or conventions.

Make campaign contributions to another member of the Armed Forces or employee of the federal government, such as the President, who is commander-in-chief of the armed forces.

Civilians

DOD civilian employees may:

Be candidates for public office in nonpartisan elections.

Register and vote as they choose.

Assist in voter registration drives.

Express opinions about candidates and issues.

Contribute money to a political organization.

Attend political fund-raising activities.

Attend and be active at political rallies and meetings.

Join in and be an active member of a political party or club.

Sign nominating petitions.

Campaign for or against referendum questions, constitutional amendments, or municipal ordinances.

Campaign for or against candidates in partisan elections.

Make campaign speeches for candidates in partisan elections.

Hold office in political clubs or parties.

DOD civilians may not:

Use official authority or influence for the purpose of interfering with or affecting the result of an election.

Collect political contributions unless both the collector and the donor are members of the same federal labor organization or employee organization and the donor is not a subordinate.

Knowingly solicit or discourage the political activity of any person who has business with DOD.

Engage in political activity while on duty, in any federal workplace, while wearing an official uniform or displaying official insignia identifying the office or position of the DOD employee, or while using a government owned or leased vehicle.

Solicit political contributions from the general public.

Be a candidate for public office in partisan elections.

Wear political buttons on duty.

Contribute to the political campaign of another federal employee who is in the DOD employee's chain of command, including the political campaign to re-elect the president or vice president.

For more information, call the legal office, 377-3510.

Vote —
it's your privilege, it's your right, it's your duty.

81st Training Wing names quarterly award winners

Airman — Staff Sgt. Rodan Ubungen, 81st Dental Squadron.

Noncommissioned officer — Tech. Sgt. Carlos Hurtado, 81st Training Support Squadron.

Senior NCO — Master Sgt. George Thompson, 333rd Training Squadron.

Company grade officer — Capt. Robert Curran, 333rd TRS.

Civilian nonsupervisory category 1 — David Cleland, 81st Civil Engineer Squadron.

Civilian nonsupervisory category 2 — Nancy White, 81st Medical Support Squadron

Civilian supervisor category 1 — Carol Emling, 81st Supply-Transportation Squadron.

Civilian supervisor category 2 — Gary Pierson, 81st CES.

Honor guard — Airman 1st Class Johann Bermudez, 81st Inpatient Operations Squadron (not pictured).



Sergeant Ubungen



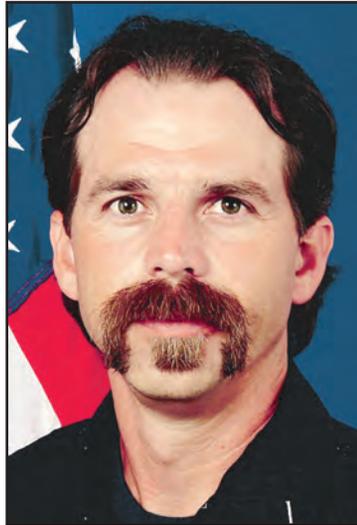
Sergeant Hurtado



Sergeant Thompson



Captain Curran



Mr. Cleland



Ms. White



Ms. Emling



Mr. Pierson

Ollie and Jim Cole from Mobile, Ala., shop for flashlights and batteries for their disaster preparation kit, Friday. Mr. Cole is a retired technical sergeant.

Photo by Kemberly Groue



Commissaries keep emergency items stocked

Defense Commissary Agency
and Keesler News staff

FORT LEE, Va. — No one can predict when or where the next disaster will occur. However, when it happens, conventional wisdom says that you need to be prepared to survive for a period of three days to a week without running water, electricity or access to stores for food and medicines.

For several years, the Defense Commissary Agency has promoted disaster preparedness through its “What’s In Your Closet” campaign. Commissaries stock large amounts of nonperishable foods, water, batteries and other supplies to encourage customers to collect the necessities they may need in the event of an emergency.

“A natural or manmade disaster can occur anytime and without warning,” said Philip Sakowitz Jr., DeCA director and chief executive officer. “We owe it to the military community we serve to help them be ready for any emergency. That preparation can be done at savings of 30 percent or more by using their commissary benefit.”

“Starting June 1 each year, we build a ‘hurricane section’ and maintain enough stock in case of an emergency,” said Gordy Harris, Keesler

Commissary director. “All emergency items are available in one place.

“We try to keep at least two semis full of water at all times during hurricane season,” he continued. “We also keep several extra pallets of meals-ready-to-eat in stock at all times.”

DeCA stores help customers prepare their emergency survival kits with items related to the disasters that tend to strike in those areas. This year, DeCA has gone a step further and added disaster preparedness items to its “summer club pack” product assortment. Club packs are oversized or multiple products similar to the bulk items sold at commercial warehouse club outlets.

The latest summer club pack includes several types of emergency lights and flashlights, batteries, a household fire suppression device and a first aid kit. The pack already included nonperishable foods such as canned green beans, peas, corn, fruit cocktail, cases of water, juices and sports drinks, energy bars, crackers and cookies, vienna sausages, cereals, pop tarts, nuts, pet food, toilet tissue, paper towels, disinfectant wipes, diapers, trash bags and plastic flatware.

“Our suppliers have worked with us to keep our stores stocked with items that

our customers need in the aftermath of a disaster,” said Charlie Dowlen, promotions manager for DeCA’s sales directorate. “In some areas, suppliers have pre-positioned pallets of emergency-related items at major distribution points to move to needed locations rapidly.”

Mr. Harris still remembers the challenges Keesler faced after Hurricane Katrina nearly three years ago.

As far as supplies go, “more is better — you never know how long power or water services will be out of order — being prepared and well stocked is the key,” he stressed. “Make sure you have plenty of gas and enough cash for several weeks in case automated teller machines are down. Most importantly, have a plan and evacuate early.

“Most people who went through Katrina learned how costly it can be to underestimate the power of a hurricane and how long it can take to get back to some degree of normalcy,” Mr. Harris added. “Prior to the next hurricane, I believe our customers will stock up with more necessary emergency supplies than ever before, just in case they need it.”

Susan Griggs, Keesler News staff, contributed to this report.

Stockpiling supplies

Before the next disaster occurs, customers should keep on hand:

Water — at least 1 gallon daily per person for three to seven days

Nonperishable foods — canned meats, fruits, vegetables, foods for infants and elderly, dried fruits, nuts, raisins, granola, peanut butter, cereal, crackers, cookies and energy bars

Paper goods — paper plates, paper towels, toilet paper

Cooking items — pots, pans, charcoal, manual can opener and utensils

First aid kit — including medicines, bandages and individual prescription drugs

Cleaning supplies — bleach, hand soap and sanitizing spray

Special diet foods

Toiletries — personal hygiene items and moisture wipes

Pet care items — food, water, medications, identification and immunization tags and records, a carrier, muzzle and leash

Flashlight and batteries — including candles and matches

For more news
and photos,
visit
[http://www.
keesler.af.mil](http://www.keesler.af.mil)

First-person report

Deployed Keesler nurse witnesses aircraft explosion

By Maj. Jacqueline Mack

81st Medical Operations Squadron

(Editor's note: While recently deployed to Southwest Asia as 379th Expeditionary Medical Group chief nurse, Major Mack witnessed an aircraft mishap. Following is her first-person account.)

It was approximately 9:20 p.m. when I heard several large bangs that sounded like someone walking on the roof. At the time I was helping a provider with aeromedical evacuation paperwork in a building two doors from the hospital.

We went outside and saw a flash in the direction of the flight line. I immediately ran to the hospital to monitor the 911 radios with the other staff and discovered a B-1 bomber had caught fire.

As you can imagine, the radio traffic was chaotic and we were trying to piece things together. From our vantage point outside the emergency room, we watched as the plane exploded, sending an eerie, gut-wrenching ball of flame at least 20-30 stories high. We also heard several large "booms" followed by flares from the fire being shot up in the air like fireworks.

My heart sank, my gut was in knots and all I could think of at that moment was, "I just was on the flight line that morning with a B-1 bomber tour!" I couldn't help wondering if this was the same B-1 I had toured earlier.

Immediately after watching the horrific event, I started to account for my nurses; I'm sure the other elements and flights were doing the same. It took only minutes for everyone to get to the hospital and be accounted for, even before a recall was initiated. It was remarkable to watch how each disaster team automatically went into full gear and set up their respective areas.

After I ensured the ER had enough ventilators, suction and supplies, I immediately turned my focus to the intensive care unit with the same concerns.

We gathered supplies and centralized them on our table in the middle of the ward thinking we would be receiving a lot of burn patients. Even logistics readiness personnel were assessing each team and annotating any needed supplies. We also had our administrative personnel primed and located at key points, ready to carry out their mission if necessary.

My focus then shifted to mental health and the chaplains and how they would be much needed in a worst-case scenario. I had the mental health care provider call the chaplain, and two chaplains arrived within minutes.

Our wing
had just participate
in a major accident
response exercise
that enabled us to learn
our capabilities as a team,
recognize our shortcomings
and improve
our communication ...
That night I observed
an extremely dedicated
team of professionals
who blended
amazingly well together
and focused
on the mission at hand.

— Major Mack

Fortunately, our wing had just participated in a major accident response exercise that enabled us to learn our capabilities as a team, recognize our shortcomings and improve our communication.

As the teams instantly formed, I witnessed a remarkable sense of urgency and extremely well-prepared personnel. Everyone knew their roles and there was absolutely no confusion. That night I observed an extremely dedicated team of professionals who blended amazingly well together and focused on the mission at hand.

Much to our relief, we only received four patients with fuel exposure who we treated and quickly discharged. We all sighed and complimented each other. We couldn't sleep the rest of the night because of the adrenaline rush.

This is an event I will never forget. You should all be very proud to know that many members of the 379th Expeditionary Medical Group staff at the time were from the Keesler's 81st Medical Group.

14 Airmen punished for alcohol offenses

In June, 14 Airmen assigned to Keesler units received Article 15 punishments for alcohol-related offenses.

81st Mission Support Squadron

An **airman first class** received a reduction in rank to airman and a forfeiture of \$200 pay for two months for driving under the influence of an intoxicating beverage and lying about his drinking.

81st Surgical Operations Squadron

An **airman first class** received a reduction in rank to airman and forfeiture of \$200 pay for two months for underage drinking. The reduction in rank and one month of the pay forfeiture were suspended for six months pending good behavior.

332nd Training Squadron

An **airman basic** received a forfeiture of \$500 for one month for possessing and drinking alcohol in the dormitory.

A **female airman first class** received 15 extra duty days and a forfeiture of \$793 for two months for attending a party in a male's room where she consumed alcohol and performed a lap dance.

An **airman basic** was stopped at a gate for underage drinking and received 15 extra duty days and forfeiture of \$673 for one month.

An **airman first class** received 10 extra duty days and forfeiture of \$693 for two months for bringing alcohol in the dormitory for underage individuals to have a party. The 10 extra duty days were suspended for six months.

An **airman** received 10 extra duty days and forfeiture of \$754 for two months for providing alcohol to minors.

An **airman basic** received 10 extra duty days and forfeiture of \$673 for two months for purchasing alcohol for minors and consuming it in the dormitory. The 10 extra duty days were suspended for six months.

An **airman first class** received 10 extra duty days, reduction in rank to airman and forfeiture of \$754 for two months for providing alcohol to minor airmen. One month's pay forfeiture was suspended for six months.

An **airman basic** received a forfeiture of \$673 for one month for possession of alcohol in the dormitory.

335th TRS

An **airman basic** received 30 days correctional custody and forfeiture of \$622 for one month for underage drinking. The correctional custody was suspended for six months.

An **airman basic** received 30 days of correctional custody and forfeiture of \$673 for one month for drinking off base and driving while intoxicated. The correctional custody was suspended for six months.

336th TRS

An **airman basic** received a forfeiture of \$622 for two months for underage drinking. One month of the forfeiture was suspended for six months.

338th TRS

An **airman** received a reduction for airman basic and forfeiture of \$754 for two months for driving under the influence while he was underage. One month of the forfeiture was suspended for six months.

To report suspicious activity at Keesler, call 377-3040.

Housing office hours

The military family housing office, Room 118, Sablich Center, is now open on compressed work schedule Fridays.

Office hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday.

For more information, call 376-8611.

Airman's Attic

The Top III is looking for volunteers to support Airman's Attic, a program that assists junior enlisted members with obtaining basic household supplies at no cost.

Airman's Attic, in the former chapel building adjacent to Sablich Center, is open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Fridays and 3-6 p.m. Wednesdays when enough volunteers are available.

The program also needs donations in good condition and volunteers with trucks to assist with occasional pick-ups.

For more information, call 377-3814 or 7801.

Military families honored

Long Beach celebrates its 103rd birthday with a festival and salute to military families, 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday.

A joint service color guard, exhibits, arts and crafts, a kids' village, food, cruise-in and games are planned.

A shuttle is available from the Naval Construction Battalion Center in Gulfport for people with military installation access. Children under 16 must be accompanied by adults on the shuttle.

For shuttle schedule, call 871-4697 on Aug. 8.

Open house

The Keesler Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program holds an open house in its new offices on the third floor of Locker House, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Aug. 15.

For easy access, use the stairwell entrance near the intersection of Third and D Streets.

Refreshments are served.

For more information, call 377-8635.

Special Olympics

Keesler's Special Olympics committee needs two volunteers to take on two roles formerly handled by civil engineers. — set-up leader and tear-down leader. The duties are complex and require many additional hours.

Applications are due Nov. 1. For more information, call Senior Airman Chris Freimann, 377-5857.

Endodontic services

The 81st Dental Squadron's department of endodontics has resumed the endodontic residency.

All authorized beneficiaries, including military retirees and dependents of active duty and retired, may be eligible for care.

Patients accepted for treatment are treated by either the endodontic specialty program residents or general dentistry program residents.

Referrals from civilian dentists for root canal treatment are considered.

For more information, call 376-5227.

Auditions

Wall Studio is conducting auditions for people to go on camera for a series of video projects in support of the 81st Training Group.

Positions are open to military members and civilians.

For more information and to schedule an audition, call Bruce Norton, 377-2793.

Thrift shop

The Keesler Thrift Shop, in the former chapel building adjacent to Sablich Center, is open 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays.

Consignments are accepted from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays. Donations are accepted during regular hours.

For more information, call 377-3217.

ADHD/ADD support

The 81st Medical Operations Squadron pediatric subspecialty clinic has a support group for families of children with Attention Deficit Hyper-

activity Disorder and Attention Deficit Disorder.

For more information, call 1st Lt. Romeatrius Moss, 376-5375, or Airman 1st Class Carla Beltran, 376-3316.

Clinic services

Adult appointments for group therapy, individual and marital counseling and medication management are available at the mental health clinic.

Space-available therapy appointments are also open to children age 10 and older.

Clinic hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. working Fridays.

For more information, call 376-0385.

Volunteer — get connected.

Keesler medic gears up for Air Force Marathon

By Staff Sgt.
Carlos Rodriguez

Keesler Public Affairs

How do they do it? How does someone run 26 miles nonstop? Or, to put it another way, 104 laps around the track. Just think about that number for a second — 104!

One person who has decided to put himself through this organized form of “torture” is Dominic Ancona, an aerospace medical service technician with the 81st Medical Operations Squadron.

Ancona has been selected to represent Air Education and Training Command in this year’s Air Force Marathon at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, Sept. 20.

Ancona and Zachary Foulk from Lackland AFB, Texas, are the two male individual runners representing AETC. The command selected Laura Baugh from Lackland and Rebecca Welch from Maxwell AFB, Ala., as its female representatives.

AETC selected the men’s team from Columbus AFB, Miss., and the women’s team from Altus AFB, Okla., for the open 10-kilometer relays.

Though this will be his first marathon, Ancona has been running since a very early age.

“I’ve been running really since I was about five,” said Ancona. “My Dad was into running and he got me into it.”

“I got serious about running in my sophomore year of high school,” he added. “It was then that I set one of my life goals that I would someday run a marathon.”

Though Ancona knew he wanted to run the 26.2-mile endurance race since high school, events have conspired to keep him from finally



Ancona

Ready to run?

If you’re planning to run in the Air Force Marathon, as an individual or with an organized team, e-mail KN@keesler.af.mil.

For more information, visit the marathon Web site, <http://www.usafmarathon.com>.

achieving his goal until this year.

“There have been several things that have kept me from running a marathon,” said Ancona, a native of Novi, Mich. “I joined the military after high school and things like job requirements, being minimally manned at work and deployments have always gotten in the way.”

After several aborted attempts to run in the Air Force Marathon because of these factors, it seems that Ancona will finally get his chance this fall in Ohio.

“It’s been hard to stay motivated this past few years, but I just look at it as some-

thing I’ve always wanted to do,” said Ancona.

Ancona was nominated for the marathon by his flight chief and was accepted by his commander based on his outstanding run time on his physical training test.

“I managed to run a 9-minute, 15-second mile-and-a-half,” said Ancona. “I was actually a little disappointed. I made an 8:20 in (technical training) school.”

Ancona’s training regime for the big day concentrates on endurance and strength.

“The first thing you need to do is work on your nutrition,” he explained. “(You need) a good supply of protein and make sure your electrolytes are up for hydration.”

“On the weekend I go swimming, biking and (I go for) long runs,” he added. “(During the week) I lift weights using lighter weights, but with plenty of (repetitions). I also do a lot of resistance training.”

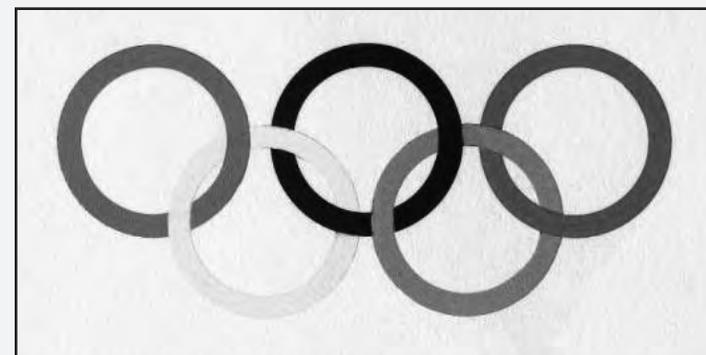
Ancona said he hopes that his months of training and desire to fulfill his lifelong goal will help him run a good race in September.

“I want to at least get a 2-hour, 49-minute time (on the marathon),” said Ancona. “I’m looking at finishing in the top 25 or 30.”

Though he will have finally run a marathon, Ancona doesn’t intend to cure his athletic bug once he achieves his goal.

“After the marathon I want to do a triathlon or even an ultra marathon which is 50 miles,” said Ancona.

One thing is for certain. Ancona’s dedication and pursuit of his goal could serve as an inspiration to anyone looking to run the ultimate race.



Military Olympians praised

By Army Staff Sgt. Michael Carden

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — As more than a dozen military athletes head to Beijing for the Summer Olympics, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff lauded their accomplishments and sent his best wishes.

“Wherever I travel around the world, whether it’s Iraq, Afghanistan or even the Far East, I see so many spectacular young people who are members of the military,” said Adm. Mike Mullen during an interview July 31. “So, to have these (service members) competing in the Olympics is certainly a real accomplishment.”

At least 15 Airmen and Soldiers will find out this month how they fare against the rest of the world in track and field, Greco-Roman wrestling and marksmanship events.

Competitors and their events are:

Air Force — Eli Bremer, modern pentathlon; Seth Kelsey, epee fencing; Kevin Eastler, 20-kilometer race walk; and Dominic Grazioli, trap shooting.

Army — Dremiel Byers, Greco-Roman wrestling; Michael Anti, air rifle; Keith Sanderson, rapid-fire pistol; Vincent Hancock, skeet; Jason Parker, air rifle; Daryl Szarenski, free pistol; Walton Eller III and Jeffrey Holguin, double trap shooting; Libby Callahan, pistol shooting; and Bret Erickson (retired), trap shooting.

U.S. Military Academy — Stephen Scherer, air rifle.

Anti and Callahan are no strangers to the Olympics, as they have seven appearances between them.

An Army World Class Athlete member, Byers is ranked No. 1 in the United States in his weight class and hopes to continue the same success he had in winning the 2008 Olympic trials in Las Vegas.

“An achievement like this, it’s got to be a peak for them in their career, and certainly we’re very proud of them,” Admiral Mullen said. “I wish them the best of luck, and I know they’ll do well and represent not just our military, but they’ll represent our country well.”

Back to school pool hours change

The main base pool closes for the season Aug. 14.

There’s no change to the hours at the Triangle Pool until Aug. 18. Until then, hours are noon to 7 p.m. daily, with lap swimming from 11 a.m. to noon.

Aug. 18, Triangle Pool is open 3-7 p.m. weekdays except Wednesdays, and 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. Hours are expected to change again in September, depending on availability of lifeguards.

Bowling

Summer league

Monday Night (as of July 28)

Team	Won	Lost
Speer Family	49	14
Fantastik 4	46	17
Team 8	39	24
SELOHSSA	39	24
Fosters	39	24
Team 12	37	26
Team 9	36	27
Pot Luck	33	30
Hoops Gang	32	31
Mudd	30.5	32.5
Braves	30	33
403rd	29	34
High Gas Strikers	28	35
Booker's Bowlers	25	31
Night Hawks	22	34
Team 7	21.5	41.5
Team 2	14	42

Thursday Retired Seniors Mixed (as of July 31)

Team	Won	Lost
Team 7	52	25
Team 12	52	25
TNT Express	48	29
Krauts	48	29
Shot in Foot	41	36
Oldies But Goodies	38	39
Team 2	36	41
Team 9	35	42
Team39	31	46
The "A" Team	30	47
Left-Right-Left	27	50

Other

Glow bowling — 9 p.m. to midnight Fridays and Saturdays.

Lunch and bowl special — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays-Fridays. Bowl for \$1 a game plus \$1 for shoes.

Red, white and blue specials — wear red, white and blue anytime in July and bowl for \$2 a game with free shoe rental and receive \$1 off a meal consisting of a main, side and medium drink.

Team building special — 1-5 p.m. working Fridays. Bring your employees bowling for \$1a game plus shoe rental. Call 377-2817 for reservations.

Open bowling — limited on league days; first come, first served. Reservations accepted with groups of 20 or more. Discounts available with groups of 25 or more.

Club member special — show current club card Thursdays and bowl for \$1.50 per game with free shoe rental.

Birthday party package — 1:30-3 p.m. or 3:30-5 p.m. Saturdays. Basic party with bowling and food \$8.95 per child. Mid party, including table supply and T-shirt, \$11.95 per child. Premium party with games and a pin, \$15.95 per child. Reservations required.

Hurricane alley, fundraisers — for more information, call 377-2817.

Air Force conducts golf survey

Air Force Services has launched its second annual golfer survey at 65 courses worldwide.

This survey, designed by the National Golf Foundation, gives Keesler golfers the chance to provide valuable feedback on Bay Breeze Golf Course.

"The survey results are not only important to us here, but also at Air Force-level, as they develop programs and the direction of Air Force golf," says Tama Manu, golf course manager.

The survey, named "Have a Nice Play," will run through Aug. 31. As a special incentive, Keesler golfers will also have the opportunity to win one of 13 golf course gift certificates to be awarded Air Force-wide.

For more information or to respond to the survey, go to <http://www.keeslerservices.us/Golf2.html>, or visit the pro shop for an off-line survey.

81st Training Wing logo shirt — available in the pro shop. Short sleeve with collar, \$22.

Flag football

American League (as of July 31)

Team	Won	Lost
81st CES	2	0
81st FSS	1	0
81st TRSS	1	1
81st DS	1	1
81st CS	1	1
403rd Wing	0	1
MARDET	0	1
336th TRS	0	1

July 28 — 81st DS 25, 403rd Wing 24; 81st CES 41, 81st CS 13; 81st TRSS 18, MARDET 13.

July 30 — 81st FSS 30, 336th TRS 7; 81st CS 32, 81st DS 26; 81st CES 25, 81st TRSS 6.

Monday — 6 p.m., 81st CS vs. 336th TRS; 7 p.m., 81st TRSS vs. 81st FSS; 8 p.m., 81st DS vs. MARDET.

Wednesday — 6 p.m., 81st CES vs. 403rd Wing; 7 p.m., 81st CS vs. 81st FSS; 8 p.m., MARDET vs. 336th TRS.

National League (as of July 31)

Team	Won	Lost
81st MDG	2	0
81st MDSS	2	0
81st SFS	1	0
81st SUPS/TRANS	1	1
338th TRS	0	1
333rd TRS	0	1
332nd TRS	0	1
85th EIS	0	2

July 29 — 81st MDG 35, 85th EIS 6; 81st MDSS 27, 332nd TRS 20; 81st SUPS/TRANS 21, 338th TRS 13.

July 31 — 81st SFS 41, 333rd TRS 18; 81st MDSS 20, 85th EIS 0; 81st MDG 26, 81st SUPS/TRANS 0.

Tuesday — 6 p.m., 85th EIS vs. 81st SFS; 7 p.m., 81st SUPS/TRANS; 8 p.m., 81st MDSS vs. 338th TRS.

Thursday — 6 p.m., 81st MDG vs. 332nd TRS; 7 p.m. 85th EIS vs. 333rd TRS; 8 p.m., 338th TRS vs. 81st SFS.

Fishing

Black drum tournament — 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Weigh-ins at marina park are 2-4 p.m. both days.

There are \$500 prizes for the largest black drum and most weight for three black drum. Registration \$20 for senior airmen and below and \$25 for staff sergeants and above, civilians and area residents. There's a 50/50 side pot for the largest sheephead, \$10. Refreshments and music are provided at end of the tournament.

Event sponsored by Tuskegee Airmen Col. Lawrence E. Roberts chapter. Entry forms are available and registration fees can be paid at outdoor recreation, Ocean Springs Harbor bait house, Desporte Seafood in Biloxi and Sports Unlimited and the Harbor Bait Shop in Gulfport.

For more information, call Jon Floden, 217-4810.

Fitness centers

Mini-triathlon orientation session — 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Triangle Pool. Perfect for beginners.

Practice group ride on mini-triathlon cycling route — 4 p.m. Aug. 27; meet at Triangle Pool.

Free fitness classes — yoga, step aerobics, turbo-core, spin/cycle, slo-robics, boxing workout and fencing at Dragon Fitness Center. For more information, call 377-2907.

Computerized fitness assessments and counseling — available by appointment at the Dragon Fitness Center. To schedule, call 377-2907.

Massage appointments — at Triangle Fitness Center, call 263-5515.

Wall of Fame — powerlifting

event, 1-4 p.m. first compressed work schedule Friday of every month, Triangle Fitness Center. Squat, bench press and dead lift; one attempt in any or all three events; 12 weight classes for men, 10 for women. Set a record for most pounds lifted or break an existing record and get your picture on the wall. Open to all Department of Defense personnel 18 years of age and older.

For more information, call 377-3056.

Triangle Fitness Center — open 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Mondays-working Fridays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. compressed work schedule Fridays and weekends; closed holidays. For more information, call 377-3056.

Blake Fitness Center — open 4:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Mondays-working Fridays; 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. compressed work schedule Fridays; 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekends and holidays.

Dragon Fitness Center — 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays-working Fridays. Parent-child fitness room has workout equipment and play area for ages 6 months to 7 years.

Massage therapist — available at Triangle Fitness Center by appointment only; call 263-5515.

Golf

Twilight golf special — 5 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays. Pay the nine-hole fee and golf until the course closes.

Dragon fun league — Thursdays. Meet at 5 p.m., shotgun start 5:30 p.m.; starting Aug. 14, meet at 4 p.m., shotgun start 4:30 p.m. Four-person teams; two-person blind draw. Sign up as twosome or single. \$20 per person including greens fee, cart, food, beverages and prizes. Format decided by draw each week. Limit 44 golfers.

Golf lessons — \$25 for 30 minutes. For appointment, call 424-0479.

Driving range — 40 balls, \$2.

Course and pro shop — 7 a.m. to dusk daily. For tee times, call 377-3832.

Martial arts

Editor's note: Classes at Vandenberg Community Center. For more information, call 377-3308.

Shaolin pentjak silat — 7-8 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays, all ages. \$65 month. Striking, kicking, grappling, weapons and internal energy; sash ranking system.

Pukulan pencak silat tempur — 6-7 p.m. Monday, Tuesdays and Thursdays. \$65 month. Closequarters combat class; used for personal protection.

Mixed martial arts — 8-9 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays. \$65 month; muay thai, western boxing, kung fu, wrestling, judo and jujitsu.

Women's self defense — 6-7 p.m. Wednesdays. \$25 month. Mental, physical and tactical training.

Outdoor recreation

Back Bay fishing trip — Saturday and Aug. 23; call for time. \$20 person; bring your own food and drinks. Mississippi fishing license required; six to eight people for trip.

Trip to Chandeleur Island — Aug. 19-20. Bring food, drink and lures. Reserve early; call for current prices.

Blue water fishing trip — midnight Friday. Travel six hours to waters about 600 feet deep to fish for amberjack, wahoo, cobia, tuna and more; \$200 person; everything provided except food and beverages. Must have 12 passengers.

One-day fishing trips — to Horn, Cat and Ships Islands; select the date. Also one-day charters in Delacox and Reggio, La., with professional fishing guide, Capt. Darren Schaff. For more information, call 377-3160.

Fish of month — weigh in the heaviest red drum for the month; take home \$100 savings bond.

Camping packages — for rent include sleeping bags, lanterns, camp stoves and tents. For more information, call 377-3160.

RV, boat and trailer storage — \$20 per month.

Delacroix, La. fishing site — two self-contained trailers for rent, \$50 per night. Maximum four per trailer. Bring linens and cooking utensils. Louisiana fishing license required.

Pontoon boat training — to rent a pontoon you must take a test and be certified. Call for information.

Bicycles for rent — 3500 Trek seven-speed bikes, \$3 day, \$15 week.

Wet slip fees — monthly, boats more than 32 feet, \$3.75 per foot; less than 32 feet, \$2.50 per foot. Overnight, \$5 per boat.

Deep sea fishing trips — compressed work schedule Fridays and Sundays on the Keesler Dolphin II. \$75 per person includes everything you need to fish. Payment due upon reservation. Minimum 15, maximum 22 people. For reservation, call 377-3160.

Deep sea fishing private charter — rent Dolphin II, \$850 for first six people, \$60 each additional person. \$350 deposit required.

Back Bay cruiser — 17-foot vessel for rent. Mississippi boater registration card required. For prices, call 377-3160.

Marina park pavilions — to reserve, call 377-3160.

Disk golf — distance, fairway, multi-purpose, putt and approach disks for sale or rent.

Resale area — snacks, beverages, fishing and rental equipment, hunting and fishing licenses.

Paintball

Paintball course — open by reservation only; for reservations or more information, call 377-3160.

HONORS

Student honor roll

332nd Training Squadron

Electronic principles — Airmen Basic Ashley Applewhite, Brandon Auwaerter, Joseph Baran, Joshua Braunecker, Justin Bryant, Anthony Chambers, Michael Craven, Erin Brown, John Carin, Brock Cooper, Joshua Ervin, Christopher Garza, Cody Gunter, Chalio Guzman, Christopher Harms, Alex Harris, Ryan Hart, Mitchell Hess, Aaron Hetu, Adam Houghtaling, Thane Isherwood, Patrick Jones, JesseLee Kahaloa, Timothy Kemmerly, Andrew Kerner, Aaron Kotz, Kristofer Lee, Eliseo Malave, Kristle Mamola, Anthony Martin, Robert Martinez, Thomas Martinez, Dustin Matthews, Sean McNulty, Bryan Morris, Yasmin Pena, Cameron Pierce, George Powell, Adam Rentsch, Troy Riley, Derek Scott, Michael Sprouse, Eric Tedor, Samuel Trutna, Colin Warren, Adam Watson, Dustin Watson, Christopher Weidner, Justin Weisz, Scott Williams, Dean Wood and Shaolong Yang; Airmen Joseph Cassell, Shane Charland, Christopher Colone, Lance Covington, Zachary Couch, Aric Davies, Zachary Davis, Glenn Flick, Paul Helms, Matthew Imshweiler, Justin Ingersoll, Christina Johnson, Mark Kelley, Kyle Kimpel, Alan Schumacher, Richard Shifflet, Lucas Taylor, William Thompson, Andrew Welsh and Jason White; Pfc. James Grove and Daniel Omlor; Airmen 1st Class Amanda Adams, Jesse Baker, Brent Bender, Justin Boyer, Adam Brock, Johnny Brascom, Ryan Brennan, Greg Carpenetti, Luke DeLaCruz, Mario Difranco, Michael Erdbacher, Gabriel Felix, Daniel Goodman, Robert Jacoby, Krista Johnson, McKenzie Lauber, William McCloskey, Peter Mendenhall, Stephanie Navarro, Adam Neiderhiser, Zachary Ostas, Casey Raynes, Vincent Russo, Jared Siedschlag, Daniel Simmons, Christopher Smith, Alexander Starleaf, Matthew Tarpley, Ryan Tierney, Manuel Varela, Patrick Wade, Brian Wiedmeyer and Thomas Wilent; Senior Airmen Paul Ballard, Juan Duran, Luke Gregory, Bradley Hebert, Shawn Hopper, Christopher Johnson, Neal Kirsch, Tom Kwiczor, David March, Timothy Nester, Gary Thornhill and Anthony Wilson; Staff Sgts. Daniel Ahrens, Ronald Brennand, Ronald Casi, Christopher Doriott, Douglas Giles, Jason Herbkersman, Jason Hill, Joseph Hudson, Heber Laing, John Leuthauser, Kyle Murphy, Randy Neblett, Daniel Nodich, Benjamin Russell, Mario Sanchez, Elbert Sharp and Adrian Wade; Tech. Sgts. Fahad Abdulrahman, William Arthur, Daniel Howard, Jason Kruegel, Daniel Olmstead and Jeremy Roering; Master Sgt David Welchel.

334th TRS

Air traffic control operations training flight — Airmen Basic Derek Blair, Devon Griffith, Brittany Inman, Kent Marsh, Tariq Simmons, Joseph Stepka, John Stevens, Kevin Voelz and Brent Wardrip; Airmen Adam Markham and Thomas McDannel; Airmen 1st Class Zachary Bergsma, Benjamin Cotton, Tiffany Farabaugh, Jennifer Force, Torey Griffith, John Harden, Sergey Kachankov, Jay Knisley, Raymond LaStrape, Christopher Palmer, Dustin Smallwood, Eugene Solomon, Erich Steinmann and Craig Turner; Staff Sgts. Daniel Barr and Joseph O'Marie.

Airfield management apprentice course — Airman Basic Kevin O'Neil and Whitney Middleton; Airmen 1st Class Jessica Roland and James Hansen; Senior Airman Timothy Villarreal; Staff Sgts. Jakenzi Lewis and Christina Wright; Tech. Sgt. Steven Smigelski.

Command post apprentice course — Airman Basic Hannah Kang; Airmen 1st Class Pablo Badillo, Lauren Davidson, Daniel Lecureaux and Clarence Runia; Senior Airmen William Daugherty, Jonathan Leetham and Justin Loza; Staff Sgts. Andrew Brice, Rebekah Burger, Ricky Diaz, Dennis McCray, Gina Moten, Shannon Riley, John Sandoval, Ryan Shydlinki, Derrick Taylor and Chad Yunk; Tech. Sgts. Jordan Acosta, Latesha Byers, Colleen Callahan and Bryan Gustafson; Master Sgt Michael Vaurigaud.

335th TRS

Comptroller training flight — Airmen Basic Maria Aguilar-Santiago, Tiffany Coleman, Joshua Lowry, Jace McCarthy, Timothy Sanders, Nichole Stone and Daniel Welker; Airman Kalin Anderson and Matthew Salter; Airmen 1st Class Terri Baker, Cristina Buzgau, Cory Damico, Logan Fuller, Steven Mifflin, Chris Moore, Pepper Palmer, Stacy Som, Wesley Tuttle, Jessica

Wills and Nathanael Wood; Senior Airmen Jeannette Dineros Edie, Jonathon McWhirter and Jasin Nesmith; Staff Sgt Patrick Judicpa, Noel Moreno, Leah Rogers, Kathleen Smith and Bethany Vital; Tech. Sgt. Francis Johnson; Master Sgts. Cynthia Cropper, Karen Inman and Kelly Longacre.

Weather training flight — Airmen Basic Phillip Artin, Marcus Becker, Jeremy Frechette, Michael Geoghegan, Aimee Green, Kristina Halloran, Douglas Johnson, Franklin Kapuchuck, Susan Kirby, Alan Petrarca, Jesse Sanders, Amanda Sivard and Amanda Wynn; Navy Airmen Recruit Kristopher Henderson, Roderick Lind and Tyler Rice; Airman Kristian Kemp and Margaret Peterson; Pfc. Christopher Smith, William Stevens and Tyler Tomica; Navy Airman Jeremy Duty, Michael Latin and Ryan Vaughan; Marine Lance Cpls. Nicholas Gonzales, Adam Pulie and Joshua Whittaker; Airmen 1st Class Nadeem Ahmed, Joshua Bellew, Spencer Charczuk, Magnus Creed, Ronald Falleck, Cassandra Guzman, Joshua Lacombe, MaryJo Laumbach, Brittany Johnson, Alexander Marsh, Christopher Shaw, Anthony Smith, Bryan Wilson and Justin Worrell; Marine Cpl. Johnathon Beaucar; Senior Airman Kyle Haynes, Joshua Fanjoy and Steven Timlin; Marine Sgts. Dustin Heflin, Nathan Kramer and Curtis Novaria; Staff Sgts. Thao Hill and Andrew Hobbs; Tech. Sgt. Brandon Roell.

336th TRS

Communications-computer systems flight — Airmen Basic Shijo Abraham, James Baker, Christopher Barrow, Daniel Chaffee, Earl Copeland, Darren Diones, Ian Fischer, Adam Howard, Virginia Howe, Philip Kaneshiro, Nadia Kelly, Victor Morales, Travis Ng, Cody Tenda, William Twomey, Charles Weddington and Ashley Welch; Airmen Robert Milliken, Mark Quinlan, Eileen Siemsen and Cassandra Ybarra; Airmen 1st Class Josue Andujar-Valentin, Arnold Appel, Michael Butler, Austin Carroll, Brandon Hill, Raven Hunt, Jodi Mahoney, Anthony Oddi, Atom Peppe, Ryan Poster, Michael Rupp, Troy Scarborough, Michael Smith, Stacy Steele and Leah Wood; Senior Airmen Shane Anderson, Hyun Lee, Steven Lovell, Tracie Oster, Joshua Suratt, Alex Tavarez and Richard Vanerkolk; Staff Sgts. Ronell Buchanan, Pedro Cancel, Broc Gallman, Michael Kelso, Jayson Maxwell, Dylan Miller, Rexford Sheldon and Maria Schoenbeck; Tech. Sgt. Miguel Valdivia; Master Sgts. Chad Johnson, Timothy Norton and Lane Philbeck.

Communications and information flight — Airmen Basic Joe Brosher and Justin Jones; Airman 1st Class Matthew McConnell; Staff Sgts. Mark Huntington, Brian Johnson and Michael Rodgers.

CHAPEL SERVICES

Editor's note: For more information, call 377-2520.

Protestant

Sunday worship

Larcher Chapel traditional service.....8:30 a.m.
Triangle Chapel contemporary worship service...10:30 a.m.
Triangle Chapel gospel service.....Noon

Roman Catholic

Sunday Mass

Triangle Chapel.....9 a.m.

Weekday Mass

Medical Center chapel.....11:15 a.m.

Jewish

For worship opportunities, call Tech. Sgt. Michael Raff, 377-5235.

Islamic

Building 2003 — prayer five times daily; Salaat ul-Jumma congregational prayer, noon Friday.

For more information, call 377-2520 or 0327.

Latter-Day Saints

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints — student group service, 2 p.m. Sundays, Triangle Chapel. For more information, call 396-5274 or 1-801-694-8900.

338th TRS

Airfield systems — Airman Basic Luke Servas; Airman Earl McCormick; Airman 1st Class Corey Benton; Senior Airman Colin Teal; Master Sgt. Joel Martinath.

Ground radar — Airman Drew Manoram; Airmen 1st Class Oscar Calhoun, Zachary Hughes and Kevin Hurlley; Senior Airman Nathan Smith.

Ground radio — Airmen Basic Michael Butz, Bradley Corporon, Robert Crosier, Joshua Lehne, Craig Lowe, Charles Mizer, Stephen Shockey and Gregory Stanley; Airmen Wyatt Craig, Gregory Defilippo, Matthew Spagnola, and Alexander Weaver; Airmen 1st Class Eric Berry, Raymond Campos, John Clyburn, Robert Cope, Frank Fay, Joseph Harkins, Michael McAtee, John Moak, Wesley Orr, Adam Roush, Charles Vanvoorhis and Haywood Williams; Senior Airman Patrick Ceaser; Staff Sgt. Charles Breax.

CLASSES

Airman Leadership School

Class 08-6 — graduation Sept. 10.

Keesler NCO Academy

Class 08-6 — graduation Sept. 11.

Airman and family readiness center

Home buying seminar — 10 a.m. to noon Aug. 21, Room 108A, Sablich Center. For more information or to register, call 376-8728.

Arts and crafts center

Multi-craft shop

Ice cream social — noon to 2 p.m. Aug. 23 in multi-craft shop. Free sundaes, banana splits and tours of center.

Youth division artist/craftsmen contest — ages 5-17; entry deadline Aug. 15. Drawing, painting, paper/fabric/leather, pottery/ceramics/glass/metal/wood. Forms available at shop.

Bob Ross painting — 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. Paint a 16x20-inch landscape. \$60 for canvas, all supplies and snack lunch.

Pottery-hand building — 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Aug. 16. Learn clay crafting; \$40 includes five pounds of clay and project firing; bring a bag lunch.

Nonprior students and friends ceramics — noon to 3 p.m. Aug. 22. Learn to cast ceramics and use paints for finishing techniques. \$8 includes two chessmen, all supplies and first firing.

Wood shop

Beginning framing — 12:30-4 p.m. non working Fridays. \$30. Call for more information and to preregister.

Shop use with assisting woodcrafter — Hardwoods for sale.

Frame shop

Customized picture framing and military flag and show box design — self-help framing area is available for certified hobbyists, or pick matting and molding and shop will do the work.

Auto hobby shop

Editor's note: open shop use, preregister for classes.

Vehicle resale lot — one block west of Larcher Boulevard on Tingle Street north of the 81st Security Forces Squadron building. Register at multi-craft shop. Registration, license and proof of insurance required. To place a car on the lot, call 377-2821.

Qualified mechanics — can assist with vehicle maintenance.

Oil collection site — for personal vehicles.

24-hour coin-operated car wash, vacuum and tire air pump — wash, rinse, wax system, towelettes, Armorall and vacuum.

Digest,

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Chapel

All classes are held at the Triangle Chapel Annex through May. For more information, call 377-2520.

Catholic religious education — after 9 a.m. Sunday Mass.

Protestant Sunday School — 10:30-11:30 a.m. for pre-school, elementary, teens and adults.

Men's prayer breakfast — 9 a.m. to noon second Saturday of the month.

Women's prayer breakfast — 10 a.m. to noon first Saturday of the month.

Tuesday Bible study — 6-7:30 p.m. at the Haven.

Dinner and the Bible — 6-7:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Triangle Chapel Annex.

McBride Library

Orientations for commanders, instructors and first sergeants — 4:30 p.m. Wednesdays.

School orientations — 6 p.m. Wednesday, high school students; Aug. 20, grade school students; Aug. 27, family night with tours and refreshments.

Summer story times — 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays, and 2 p.m. Thursdays, ages 3-5.

Available for use — children's library and meeting, audio and typing rooms.

Free wireless Internet — check at circulation desk.

Fax special — 50 cents a page, incoming and outgoing, throughout August.

Tours/orientations — call 377-2181.

Keesler Medical Center

Pediatric subspecialty clinic

Baby Boot Camp — 11 a.m.-1 p.m. second Thursday of the month in conference room BF 400, located off the outpatient clinic entrance. Classes cover infants from birth to 6 months of age. Classes address common concerns of new parents such as booking appointments, colic, immunizations, safety, feeding issues, developmental milestones, dental care and infant cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Gifts, prizes and refreshments are included. Classes open to members of all branches of the military and their dependents. To sign up, call Capt. Romeatrius Moss, 376-5375. For more information, call Capt. Moss, Maj. Muriel Gatlin, 376-5387, or Staff Sgt. Jihan Brown, 376-5579.

Mental health clinic

Post-traumatic stress disorder — 1:30 p.m. Mondays.

Healthy thinking — 2 p.m. Tuesdays.

Stress management techniques — 10 a.m. Wednesdays.

Relaxation techniques — 9 a.m. Mondays.

To register, call 376-0385.

CLUBS AND CENTERS

Vandenberg Community Center

Editor's note: All events, except dances, are open to all Keesler personnel.

Free shuttle service — 6-9:30 p.m. Thursdays before nonworking Fridays; 1-11 p.m. nonworking Fridays and Saturdays and 6-11 p.m. working Fridays. Also stops at Muse Manor, McBride Library, arts and crafts center, Tyer House, bowling center, outdoor recreation, Katrina Kantina and Bay Breeze Golf Course.

Legends Café — open 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, 5-9 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays and 5-11 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays.

Pool tournaments — 6 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays.

Movie night — 6 p.m. Wednesdays. New releases, popcorn.

Dances — 6 p.m. to midnight Thursdays before compressed work schedule Fridays, and Fridays and Saturdays. \$3.

Katrina Kantina

Editor's note: In the marina building overlooking Biloxi's Back Bay.

Dinner and music — 5 p.m. Aug. 28. Cook your own steak \$6, chicken \$5 for members; add \$2 for nonmembers. Hot dogs and chips for children, \$1.50. Music by Eddie McDaniel One-Man Band.

All ranks invited — open 3:30 p.m. Tuesdays-Fridays. Snacks, beverages and music.

Luncheon specials — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays. New menu each week. \$6 members, \$8 nonmembers. For more information, call 377-2219.

Tuesday special — red beans and rice, \$1 bowl.

Martini and jazz night — 5 p.m. Thursdays before non-working Fridays.

Membership special — sign up for club membership and receive scratch-off for chance to win up to \$100 on the spot. All members register to win one of 10 \$1,000 cash prizes. Club dues are free.

Catering — experts can assist with planning weddings, holidays, birthdays, official functions and other special occasions.

Youth center

Back-to-school registration — sign up for before- and after-school program.

Classes — register for dance, gymnastics, piano, tennis and assorted sports clinics.

Youth employment service — earn money for college tuition; call for more information.

Congressional Award program — ages 14-21; self-directed merit program promoting personal development, physical fitness and community involvement.

Volunteers needed — for sports, open recreation, crafts, cooking, computers, arts, reading, sewing and general cleaning and decorations. Must be 18 or older. For more information, call 377-4116.

TICKETS AND TRIPS

Trips to New Orleans Saints games at Superdome — Sunday, Buffalo Bills; Aug. 30, Miami Dolphins. \$60 per person includes transportation and admission. Sign up at Vandenberg Community Center customer service desk. Seating limited to 20 passengers, first come, first served.

Gulf Island Water Park tickets — daily adult \$18, daily child under 42 inches \$13, season pass \$74.95.

Discounted tickets — for many attractions including Busch Gardens, Sea World, Universal Studios and Disney World in Florida. For price list, log on to <http://www.keeslerservices.us>.

Information on area and out-of-state attractions — free brochures for Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida and Georgia.

TRANSITIONS

Workshops, briefings

Executive transition assistance program — open to chief master sergeant, senior master sergeants, colonels and lieutenant colonels in Air Education and Training Command planning to retire or separate within 18 months. Participants should have advanced degrees and management and leadership experience. Training provides the necessary skills and knowledge to seek employment in U.S. corporations. Registration is Sept. 16-25 for the Nov. 18-21 session at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. For more information or to register, visit <https://www-r.aetc.af.mil/dp/etap>.

Congressionally-mandated pre-separation briefings — counseling by airman and family readiness center for active-duty military members of any branch of service who'll receive honorable discharges and no extra transition benefits. Briefings are Thursdays in Room 111, Sablich Center, 1 p.m. for personnel who are separating and 2:30 p.m. for those who are retiring. Individuals with less than honorable discharges, receiving extra benefits such as second enrollment opportunity in Montgomery GI Bill, Reserve or Guard personnel coming off 180-day deployments or entering the disability system, call 376-8728 for individual counseling appointment. To register, call 376-8728. For more information, call Jackie Pope, 376-8505.

Transition assistance program — 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Aug. 14, Sept. 15-18, Oct. 20-23, Nov. 17-20 and Dec. 8-11, Room 108A, Sablich Center. For military personnel who are 12 months or less from separation or 24 months or less from retirement, and Department of Defense civilians; spouses welcome. Military members should complete congressionally-mandated pre-separation counseling in advance. Attire is business casual — no uniforms, jeans, shorts or T-shirts. To sign up, call 376-8728.

DINING HALL MENUS

Today

Lunch — pork chops with mushroom gravy, braised liver with onions, fried fish, hush puppies, rissole potatoes, rice, gravy, broccoli, peas and carrots, corn, fruit salad, potato salad, cream of broccoli soup, chicken chili, cheeseburger soup, buffalo wings and roast beef subs.

Dinner — baked chicken, pepper steak, pasta primavera, mashed potatoes, rice, gravy, mixed vegetables, fried okra, green beans, potato salad, fruit salad, cream of broccoli soup, cheeseburger soup, chicken chili, buffalo wings and roast beef subs.

Friday

Lunch — shrimp scampi, beef stew, turkey, egg noodles, rice, gravy, corn on the cob, cauliflower, collard greens, three-bean salad, chicken and wild rice soup, French onion soup, chili, barbecue pork sandwich and burritos.

Dinner — chili macaroni, barbecue chicken, fried catfish, potato wedges, Spanish rice, gravy, fried cabbage, carrots, broccoli, pasta salad, three-bean salad, chicken and wild rice soup, French onion soup, chili, barbecue pork sandwich and burritos.

Saturday

Lunch — baked chicken, Swedish meatballs, creole shrimp, mashed potatoes, rice, gravy, creamed corn, asparagus, steamed squash, fruit salad, kidney bean salad, clam chowder, chicken chili and chicken nuggets.

Dinner — baked fish, knockwurst, Chinese five-spice chicken, potatoes, rice pilaf, gravy, stir-fry vegetables, baked beans, spinach, fruit salad, kidney bean salad, clam chowder, chili and chicken nuggets.

Sunday

Lunch — oven fried fish, spareribs, chicken breast parmesan, macaroni and cheese, O'Brien potatoes, gravy, peas, sweet potatoes, broccoli combo, German coleslaw, tomato salad, chicken tortilla soup, baked potato chowder, chili and cheese pizza.

Dinner — stir-fry beef with broccoli, turkey nuggets, pork chop suey, sauteed mushrooms and onions, baked potatoes, rice pilaf, gravy, corn on the cob, green beans, German coleslaw, tomato salad, chicken tortilla soup, baked potato chowder, chili and cheese pizza.

Monday

Lunch — beef pot roast, baked stuffed fish, roast pork loin, potatoes, rice, gravy, cauliflower combo, succotash, green beans, cucumber/onion salad, chicken dumpling soup, minestrone, chili with beans, grilled sausage and steak and cheese subs.

Dinner — spaghetti with meat sauce, loin strip steak, turkey, baked potatoes, pea and pepper rice, gravy, squash, carrots, broccoli, sauteed mushrooms and onions, macaroni salad, cucumber/onion salad, chicken dumpling soup, minestrone, chili with beans, grilled sausage and steak and cheese subs.

Tuesday

Lunch — teriyaki chicken, veal parmesan, baked fish, rice, parsley buttered potatoes, gravy, fried cabbage, succotash, steamed carrots, macaroni salad, cottage cheese salad, beef pot roast soup, vegetable soup, chicken chili, sloppy joes and roast beef subs.

Dinner — country captain chicken, meatloaf, turkey a la king, rice, mashed potatoes, gravy, tempura vegetables, mustard greens, okra tomato gumbo, macaroni salad, cottage cheese salad, beef pot roast soup, vegetable soup, chicken chili, sloppy joes and roast beef subs.

Wednesday

Lunch — Chinese five-spice chicken, beef and broccoli stir fry, Cantonese spareribs, vegetable egg rolls, shrimp fried rice, stir fry vegetables, chow mein noodles, fried cabbage, chicken gravy, lemon sesame green beans, Mexican coleslaw, pasta fagioli soup, vegetarian chili, cheese fishwich and pizza.

Dinner — lemon-herb chicken, sweet and sour pork, jambalaya, scalloped potatoes, rice, gravy, cauliflower combo, Mexican corn, Mexican coleslaw, frijole salad, chicken noodle soup, cream of potato soup, chili, cheese fishwich and pizza.

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Military retirement benefit seminars — 8-10:30 a.m. today, Sept. 4, Oct. 2, Nov. 6 and Dec. 4, Room 108A, Sablich Center. Tricare, Survivor Benefit Plan, movement and storage of household goods, military and retired pay issues and other topics covered. Spouses encouraged to attend. To sign up, call 376-8728.

Employment opportunities

Career focus program for spouses — information on area employment opportunities, job Web sites, human resources contacts, temporary jobs, on-base listings and free training programs. Computer lab available for resume preparation or job search in Room 108B, Sablich Center. For an appointment, call Ron Bublik, 376-8502 or 376-8728, or e-mail ronald.bublik@keesler.af.mil.

Air Force Office of Special Investigations — senior airmen with less than six years time in service, and staff and technical sergeants with less than 12 years time in service are eligible. Foreign language, computer or technical skills are desired, but not required. Those accepted attend the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Brunswick, Ga. for training in instruction in law, report writing, forensics, interview techniques, firearms and defensive tactics and other subjects related to the challenges of investigative duty. For more information on applying, contact AFOSI Detachment 407, 377-3420.

Air Force Reserve opportunities — for members separating within 180 days, visit Room 216, Sablich Center.

Palace Chase — for information about how to apply for a program to attend college full time and work part time, visit Room 216, Sablich Center.

Junior ROTC — immediate employment opportunities for retired or retiring Air Force officers and noncommissioned officers. Those who retired within the past 10 years or are six months from retirement may qualify to be an instructor. To apply or for more information, go to <http://www.afots.af.mil> and select "AFJROTC" or call Jo Alice Talley, toll free 1-866-235-7682, extension 7742; DSN 493-7742, or commercial (334) 953-7742.

Web sites

Defense Manpower Data Center — <http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/dors> or <http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/tbb>.

Air Force Blue to Corporate Gray — <http://www.bluetogray.com>.

Air Force Federal Employment Resume and Information — <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/resweb>.

Civilian job certification and licensing requirements for military personnel and veterans — <http://www.dol.gov/dol/vets>.

Department of Veterans Affairs — <http://www.va.gov/efif/index.htm>; for members returning from Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

Southern Region Military and Civilian Job Fair — <http://www.mesc.state.ms.us/jobfair>.

New military spouse career center — <http://www.military.com/spouse>. Extensive job board including public and private sectors. For more information, call Vince Patton, 703-269-0154, or e-mail at vince@militaryadvantage.com.

Military Connection — online resources database for military family members seeking civilian employment at <http://www.militaryconnection.com>.

America's Job Bank — <http://www.ajb.dni.us>.

MEETINGS

Editor's note: To list time, place and contact for organization meetings, call 377-3837 or e-mail KN@keesler.af.mil.

Upcoming

Air Force Sergeants Association Chapter 652 — 4 p.m. Aug. 19, Katrina Kantina. Out-of-cycle election for president, vice-president and three trustees is being held because most executive council members are departing Keesler or deploying for extended periods of time. Offices will be held until regular annual elections in February.

For more information, call Staff Sgt. Richard Striggow, 377-4800.

Recurring

African-American Heritage Committee — 3:30 p.m. second Tuesday of the month, Room 109, Taylor Logistics Building. For more information, call Paulette Powell, 377-2270, or Kurt Higgins, 377-1390.

Air Force Sergeants Association Chapter 652 — 4 p.m. third Tuesday of the month, Katrina Kantina. For more information, call Master Sgt. Kat Hataway, 377-1389, or visit the group's Web site, <http://www.afsa652.org>.

Air Force Sergeants Association Auxiliary — 6 p.m. third Tuesday of the month. For more information, call Michelle Foster, 273-4591, or e-mail auxiliary.president@afsa652.org.

Airmen Against Drunk Driving — For more information, call Senior Airman Aaron Eden, 1907; Staff Sgt. Brad Mills, 377-1714 or call 377-SAVE.

Asian Pacific-American Heritage Committee — 11:30 a.m. first Wednesday of month, Room 111, Sablich Center. For more information, call Lucy Belles, 377-2179, or Larry McKean, 377-3252.

At Eze Toastmasters Club — 11 a.m. Tuesdays, Building 1101 conference room. For more information, call Dewi Clark, 377-2714 or e-mail dewi.clark2@keesler.af.mil; Arleen Stewart, 377-2440, or visit <http://www.toastmasters.org>.

Blacks in Government — 5:15 p.m. second Thursday of the month, Taylor Logistics Building conference room. For more information call Florence Clay, 377-8681, or Paulette Powell, 377-2270.

Civil Air Patrol Col. Berta A. Edge Composite Squadron — 7 p.m. Tuesdays upstairs in Hangar 3 for youth and adults. For more information, call 1-601-528-4337, e-mail Camoprincess92@gmail.com or visit <http://www.keeslercap.org>.

Company grade officers council — meets first Wednesday of the month. For time and location, call Capt. Ted West, 377-7343.

Keesler Amateur Radio Club — 6:30 p.m. Mondays, Hangar 3, Room 215. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Justin Meyer, 377-4149 or 324-5806, or e-mail justin.meyer2@keesler.af.mil.

Keesler Christian Home Educators Association — 7-9 p.m. second Tuesday of the month, September-May, Larcher Chapel. For more information, call Heather Melancon, 831-8895.

Keesler Spouses Club — second Tuesday of the month. For time and place, call Gretchen Gorline, 374-8024, or visit <http://www.KeeslerSpousesClub.com>.

Native American Heritage Committee — for more information, call R.I. Whiteside, 863-0479, or Capt. Elizabeth Taillon, 377-6242.

Retired Enlisted Association Magnolia Chapter 81 — 6:30 p.m. second Thursday of the month, Vandenberg Community Center. For more information, call Larry McKean, 377-3252 or 374-5922.

Rising VI Association — 3:15 p.m. third Wednesday of the month; location varies. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Toyshaline Young, 377-0591, or Tech. Sgt. Jodi Evans, 377-2835.

Top III — 3:30 p.m. third Thursday of the month, Katrina Kantina. For more information, call Master Sgt. Michael Krejci, 376-6346.

Tuskegee Airmen Inc., Col. Lawrence E. Roberts Chapter — 5 p.m. first Thursday of the month, McBride Library. For more information, call Glenda Mosby, 243-1992, gmosby1@bellsouth.net, or Charles Bowers, 860-3665.

MISCELLANEOUS

Movies

Editor's note: Movies are at Welch Auditorium. Tickets are \$3 adults and \$1.50 children for regular features, and \$2.50 adults and \$1 children for matinees. For recording about current features, call 377-6627.

Friday — 6:30 p.m., The Love Guru (PG-13, 88 minutes).

Saturday — 2 p.m., Kit Kittredge (G, 110 minutes); 6:30 p.m., Wanted (R, 110 minutes).

Sunday — 1 p.m., Kung Fu Panda (PG, 92 minutes).